

GLENN HAUSER'S SHORTWAVE/DX REPORT 99-48, November 1, 1999

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WORLD OF RADIO NEW TIME ON WWCR. The WWCR website <http://www.wwcr.com> November schedule revision shows Saturday 2030 on 12160; yet to be confirmed. WWCR now has a convenient listing of "specialty programs" including WOR.

WORLD OF RADIO ON RFPI. 21460-USB will be off most of November awaiting replacement parts. Nominal schedule retained in our listings at <http://www.angelfire.com/ok/worldofradio>

WORLD OF RADIO SCHEDULE VERSIONS. For shortwave only, including CONTINENT OF MEDIA, see <http://www.angelfire.com/ok/worldofradio/wormassw.html>
Master schedule by time of all our programs:
<http://www.angelfire.com/ok/worldofradio/wormast.html>

WORLD OF RADIO ON WORLD RADIO NETWORK. New B-99 schedule, UT:
To Europe Saturday 0430 and 0900 on WRN1 AND WRN2
To Africa via WorldSpace AfriStar channel 627 Sat 0430, 0900
To Africa, Asia, Pacific on WRN1 Sat 0900, Sun 1130
To North America Sat 1700, Sun 0630
Full details at <http://www.wrn.org>

This report includes a number of our preliminary monitoring observations of new B-99 schedules.

** ANTIGUA. Hello Glenn, Since you were the one who hooked me on harmonics years ago (I remember when you use to post them to the SWBC clubs and they didn't want any part of it), here is a late breaker. We have been having a ball on VHF low band with the skip and all coming in. Might be something your readers and radio audience would be interested in: 2000-2100 UTC 35.620 (AM) Deutsche Welle SWBC broadcast, second harmonic of 17.810 coming from Antigua in German. IS signal, news in German, etc. First SWBCer in the VHF low band I have heard in quite some time. The VHF low band has been hot hot hot lately (see my October MT feature). (Larry Van Horn, NC, Oct 28, REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING)

** AUSTRIA [non]. The first day of ORF's new Sackville relay to WNAW at 1600 on 17865 was a bust Oct 31. We got a few minutes of country fill music, evidently lacking the proper feed, and transmitter turned off at 1603* never to return. This broadcast has been planned for months, so why should it be so hard to bring it off? While Sunday may be a prime day for listeners, it is not

for full-time workers (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** BELGIUM [non]. RCI has abandoned its evening NAM frequency of 13670, now used by RVI via Bonaire including English at 2230, very good Oct 31 including Radio World on Sunday; however, new 11980 Bonaire relay at 0400 UT Monday carried classical music show instead of RW, so is that now on UT Sunday? (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** CANADA [non]. RCI's 17820 is an erstwhile Sackville frequency going back sesquidecades, but not any more. The site has been moved to Skelton for English at 1430, poor here Oct 31. The only Sackville 16mb frequency here in our mornings for B-99 is 17710 (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** COSTA RICA. Notes from James Latham on RFPI Mailbag Oct 29:

Things had been going fine when near the end of the rainy season and as the windy season was about to start, the 6975 antenna failed atop the 200 foot tower. Waited a few days for the winds to let up, but finally could wait no longer and climbed the tower. Had been running the 30 kW transmitter at 35 kW for a week, but the cubical quad antenna started to glow at night - not sparking discharge or corona, but the cooper-clad steel wire itself was heating up as resistance. There are 4 diamond-shaped loops. The driver which had been glowing then broke and was patched. So some airtime was lost about a week ago. 6975 is back on at the original 30 kW level. Had beefed up the driver. But distortion still needs to be worked on, requiring juggling transformers, setting correct bias, etc. Old driver had severe problem for a couple nights a week ago with heavy AC buzz [previously mentioned here and thought to have been explained as an audio input problem, but...]. Finding the source was quite a problem; at first thought it might be external interference. Started with looking at power amplifier, driver, modulator: all OK; low power oscillator. Finally found frequency synthesizer had 12v power supply capacitor cooked and exploded after years of use, so it was running AC into the oscillator. One capacitor was then replaced with another of not quite the right value. A real chore to find this problem. There is still a slight buzz, which should not be audible.

21460 is off the air waiting for a tube which may take three weeks to arrive. Could run the frequency at low power, but not worth it. When back, will be on a better antenna.

15049 had a problem when its power was also increased slightly. Power switching box was getting hot, as well as the cable into the transmitter. Fortunately the building is cement, not wooden, so there is no chance of fire. Now back on 24 hours.

Debra Latham added that the long-delayed Sept-Nov issue of VISTA should be reaching members any day now, and the next issue should be back on schedule [i.e. due December 1] (Notes by Glenn Hauser, REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING)

** COSTA RICA. AWR is selling TIAWR. Its final broadcasts as TIAWR will be UT Tuesday November 2 0000-0400 and 1000-1300 on 5030, 6150, 7375, 9725, 13750, 15460. There are 5 transmitters at Cahuita, so number 1 will be on either 7375 or 15460. The finale, titled "Remembering Yesterday" will offer specially endorsed QSL cards. Report to Shella [sic] Oliver, Adventist World Radio, Apartado 1177, 4050 Alajuela, Costa Rica. AWR is beefing up its SW facilities in Guatemala instead [not Dominican Republic as once reported], including the original 5 kW TIASD unit from Alajuela, Costa Rica (AWR press release via Adrian Peterson, summarised by Hauser, REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING)

THE REAL UNANSWERED QUESTION IS: What was wrong with the Cahuita setup in Costa Rica, with its multiple relatively high-powered transmitters from a seemingly good location? It was quite unreliable, but that goes for all other AWR sites we know of... (Hauser)

** CUBA. I suppose RHC will be late as usual in deciding on B-99 changes; they might note that Switzerland is now clashing with RHC USB on 13660 at 2100; RHC also on 13750 AM (Glenn Hauser, OK, Oct 31)

** CUBA [non]. R. Marti has some new frequencies: 21600 during many hours, including 1500, 1600 and later, Oct 31. Super signal here and no jamming yet; also Nov 1 at 1222 on 5980 instead of 5985. No jamming heard, but Cuban commie bubbles still on long abandoned 5890, and on 6030, vacant of Marti after 1200, but enough to ruin any chances of Calgary (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** CZECH REPUBLIC [non]. WRMI relay confirmed Nov 1 at new timings and on frequency changed at last minute to 7460 to avoid Norway on 7465: 0300 Spanish, 0330 Czech, 0400 English - but disappointingly poor signal (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** FINLAND. YLE's new evening English to NAm at 0300 confirmed Nov 1 on 9655 and slightly better 11665 (not 11655), both with flutter; by 0325 was in Latin news UT Monday. Is there English any more in our mornings? Not at 1330 Nov 1 on 15400, 17660 check amid heavy flutter and at 1452 check 17660 was in Russian whilst 15400 was in Finnish (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** FRANCE. RFI announces following changes to broadcasts in English:

12Z C & E Eur 11670 replaces 9805
14Z SE As 17620 replaces 15405
14Z Indian subc 11610 17620 replace 11995 15405
16Z C Afr 17850 replaces 15530

(Mike Cooper, Atlanta, Oct 27 and Bob Thomas, CT, Oct 22, REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING)

** FRANCE. RFI's English at 1200, not to NAM, is very good here on the EEU frequencies 15155, 15195 (Joe Hanlon, PA, Oct 31) Not here. At 1400 fair still on 17560, better than 17620; 1600 audible on 17850, poor with echo (Hauser, OK)

** GERMANY [non]. DW's English at 2100 to West Africa has one frequency in some versions of schedule also designated for NAM, and 15410 was good here Oct 31 with IS at 2058. This service was once on 15135. Beam from Rwanda to WAF extends onward to cover NAM (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** GHANA. R. Ghana schedules: GHANA BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Radio One, Local Language all on 4915:
M-F 0525-0915, 1200-2400; Weekend and Public Holidays 0525-2400

Radio Two, English, M-F, weekends and public holidays 0520-0915 3366, 1155-1700 6130 (via Mahendra Vaghjee, Oct 30)

** GREECE [and non]. V. of Greece's weekly music show announced in English, It's All Greek to Me, remains at 1900-2000 UT Sundays, as the host explained it was at a different time now locally. With 17765 missing, we found the new Delano relay frequency 17565, which is a satellite-hop behind Greenville on 17705, both very strong. (So this B season LRA36 Antarctica will not have a problem from 15485 splatter.) Host explained to a requestor that per ERT policy, he is not allowed to play any Greek music recorded abroad. What a shame also that the perpetually distorted satellite feed, combined with selective fading, make this a strain to listen to.

We also checked the 0300 UT November 1 English news to NAM, and found it best on 9420, along with 7450, 9375, 12105, no longer on 11645, nor 7475 as John Babbis suggested based on last year (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** IRELAND [non]. RTE English and Irish relay at 1830 confirmed Oct 31 on new 13640 via Sackville, ex-13725 (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** ISRAEL. Kol Israel English at 1500 confirmed Oct 31 on 17535, better than //15650 (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** LITHUANIA [non]. R. Vilnius English to NAM 0030 on 6120 (Bob Thomas, CT) via Germany, ex-9855, confirmed Nov 1, not yet on UT Oct 31 (Hauser)

** MAURITIUS. NEW RADIO STATION IN MAURITIUS ?

It has been reported in the local press that a Dutch of Surinam origin who already runs radio stations in Holland and in Surinam has submitted a project to operate a similar station in the island. The program will be mainly in Hindustani [Hindi & Urdu] 24 hrs daily. No details have been given if it would be in FM or SW but it seems to be in short-wave as the transmission will cover the whole region. The negotiation with the authority is in a very advanced stage and if that is true therefore let us hope that for the New Millennium at least Mauritius could be heard on SW! It is also interesting to note that the first person to submit a similar project some 3 years ago was a Scandinavian but unfortunately never did he receive any kind of reply from the Authority. (Mahendra Vaghjee, Mauritius, Oct 31)

** NETHERLANDS [non]. RN's 1430 English to Asia is fairly well audible here via Madagascar on 12090, better than 15590. To Africa at 1830 and 1930, 21590 is no longer available in English, but still on the air from Bonaire in Dutch. We still hear these broadcasts, not as well, on 17605 and 13700 (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** PERU. Hi, Glenn! Wonder if you are aware of the Spanish-language broadcast being heard (weakly) in the Ottawa area on 7003.45 kHz most mornings from about 1030 to after 1100 UTC. Haven't been able to make out any ID but the programming seems smooth with a mix of commentary and music. It seems to be gray-line reception so I assume the transmitter is somewhere in Central or South America. Hope you can ID it. Love your column in MT and it sometimes proves very useful in my work for IARU's intruder watch. 73, ... (Martin VE3OAT -- Martin H. Potter, Amateur Radio VE3OAT Co-ordinator, IARU Region 2 Monitoring System)

This has been reported by various DXers for quite some time. It is La Voz de [los? las?] Huarinjas in Peru, quite probably unlicensed. I listened on 7003.35 approx., Sat Oct 30 from 1050 tune-in. Mostly peppy Andean music with occasional animated announcements but never caught an ID. It was still in at 1140, about gone by 1147. I got to hear quite a variety of fists in all the ham CW QRM; poor Huarinjas was more a victim than a cause of QRM (Glenn Hauser, REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING)

** RUSSIA. Best bet for VOR now is an hour or two before their 2200 sign-off on 5940. They weren't bad Oct 31 2100-2200. I think the only audible VOR freq in the evening is 5940, which signs on at 0300, and,

of course, Dr. Eugene Scott on 5935 causing problems for VOR (as well as VOVietnam 0100-0130 & 0230-0300) (Ivan Grishin, Ont., Nov 1)

** SPAIN. REE finally announced new B-99 English schedule during the Oct 31 Radio Waves on 15385. While a band higher than 6 MHz would now hold up during this high-solar-cycle winter, they have gone back to 6055 to NAM not only at 0500 but 0000 and 0100, confirmed Nov 1. To Eu and Af the situation is still needlessly complex tho at least frequencies no longer differ depending on day of week:
M-F 2000, Sat 2205, Sun 2200 all on 9680 to Eu, 9595 to Af
(Glenn Hauser)

** SWEDEN. R. Sweden to NAM now at 1230 and 1430 on 18960 and 21810; the first broadcast here before sunrise has poor propagation, but the second is better. Whatever schedules and announcements may have said, the evening broadcasts at 0230 and 0330 UT November 1 were confirmed on 9495 (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** SWITZERLAND [non]. Checking for B-99 registered Red Cross to SE Europe, M-F 1430-1445 on 11680, 13755, 15115 via different Merlin sites: Mon Nov 1 at 1428 all three audible with something in Italian, including 15115 with considerable QRM to HCJB; best on 11680. But all went off at 1430* I suppose this may be a phantom broadcast, unless what was on before 1430 was actually it; starting when and if needed, when they get around to it (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** TURKEY. VOT B-99 English to NAM checked Oct 31/Nov 1: 2300 fair on 9655; 0400 very poor on 6010 with Mil QRM at least. Surely VOT could have found something better (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** UKRAINE. RUI's crippled external service audible here with English at new time 0100 Nov 1 on 9560; no sign of it on possible parallels 5905, 6020 (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** U K O G B A N I. BBC On Air for November explicitly shows that from Oct 31 on Sundays there is alternative programming during the 1600 hour for America, i.e. Concert Hall. Nevertheless, both 17840 and 9515 Oct 31 actually stayed on the main AE stream with news, sports. Let's hope they get it right by Nov 21, when that will be our chance to hear this month's Millennium Concert, from Durban.

BBCWS continues on 6135 via Delano from 0200 past 0400. Now there is some co-channel in Japanese(?) during the 0330 half-hour, ending with an NHK-style timesignal at 0400; NHK Warudo relay from somewhere?
(Glenn Hauser, OK)

** U S A. Spectrum's listener appreciation show Oct 31 at 0306 resulted in a decision not to cancel the show, but to try to tighten it up, get back to basics, invite some previous guests back, try

to get Scott Fybush on more often, tho he is busy with a new wife and new house. Winter timing is 0406 UT Sunday on WWCR 5070 (Glenn Hauser)

** U S A. Solely from an operational standpoint, here is why it can be so frustrating to try to broadcast on WGTG. All day Oct 31 on 9400, Dave Frantz interrupted regular programming EVERY TWO MINUTES, including his own SSB promotions, for repeats of a taped announcement that effective immediately on Sat and Sun, all 9400 programming would switch to 12170 "AM-USB" from 8 am to 6 pm [1300-2300 UT]. A press release says 12170 will be using new yagi at 310 degrees (Glenn Hauser, OK)

** U S A. Notes from Al Weiner Worldwide Oct 30:

Al was in hospital 4-5 days with unknown ailment, possibly Lyme disease. Thought he as going to die at one point, but feeling better now. Last week's AWWW was a rerun. Is drinking grape juice for hydration, having gotten tired of constant apple juice and is on antibiotics. He and Elayne Star will be wed this Sunday Oct 31, Halloween, at 2 pm in a local mall, with her in costume as Snow White, but I did not catch Al's costume, other than definitely not a seven dwarf as he is too tall. Vows will be recorded and perhaps played on AWWW next week. BTW, there's a picture of Elayne aboard the Fury in the photo gallery at <http://wbcq.net>. Besides being away in the hospital last week, WBCQ had another problem; an isolation transformer blew out. Tom and Timtron put in lots of overtime and extra trouble getting it replaced and fixed. Real Radio's Mr Mike called to say they had gotten so many requests to replay their first two shows many people missed, that they will do so the first two weeks in Nov, i.e. UT Sun 0030 as timeshifted (notes by Hauser)

** U S A. Dear Glenn,

Thanks for the concern. The doctors think it's Lyme disease and are treating me with powerful antibiotics. I get an IV feed every day till Nov. 7th. I feel dizzy and foggy most of the time - not pleasant. I will be dressed up as the charming Prince for the wedding tommorrow. Should be a fun time. May broadcast the ceremony on AWW next week. I only do AWW on Fridays but sometimes I fill in with a special AWW when a time slot opens up.

Program notes:

Radio Timtron Worldwide can be heard Saturdays, 5pm-6pm eastern-lots of great rock and roll music to be had. [2200-2300 UT now -- that is the time when Al previously said a new polka show would be on in Nov]

WBCQ-TWO should be ready for testing soon, hopefully before the snow flakes fly. Test frequencies will be in the 9 MHz and maybe the 12 MHz bands as well as something in 40 meters. Take care, (Allan Weiner, WBCQ, Oct 30 via Hauser)

** U S A. ALL IS NOT WELL AT VOICE OF AMERICA, CONTINUED:

On top of everything else... Oct 25 they announced that all tests were negative, but just underscores how ludicrous it is that VOA over the years was never given a new "home" as other agencies have been over the years.

NOTICE TO ALL INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING EMPLOYEES
IN THE WILBUR J. COHEN BUILDING

Due to a problem with unauthorized construction in HHS space on the 5th floor of the Wilbur J. Cohen Building, there has been a localized asbestos contamination problem which has resulted in asbestos contamination on the C St. side of the 5th floor and the sidewalk area in the immediate vicinity of the C Street entrance. GSA regional safety personnel have advised that they do not believe that the contamination problem extends to space occupied by International Broadcasting.

As a precaution GSA is requiring that HHS personnel evacuate part of the contaminated areas on the 5th floor until the contamination is abated. For the same reason, the C. St. entrance to the Cohen Building has been temporarily closed.

Besides the closure of the C St. entrance, the most immediate impact to International Broadcasting personnel will be as a result of shutting down the air handling systems that serve all floors of the building on the C st. side between the wings (from the 400 corridor through to the 600 corridor). The only adverse impact that GSA anticipates within our space is a COMFORT PROBLEM due to the restrictions on the ventilation systems.

When asbestos contamination is remediated, GSA plans to conduct air sampling on all floors in affected areas to ensure that there is no residual contamination. It is anticipated that this testing will occur on Sunday and that the building will be back to normal by Monday morning.

** YUGOSERBIA. Glenn--- Here is the Radio Yugoslavia schedule which I got from their website, <http://www.radioyu.org> ... this involves English broadcasts.

01-0130 (not UT Sunday) Eastern NAm 7115 310 deg.

02-0230 Western NAm 7130 325 deg.

1330-14 Australia 11835 100 deg.

1930-20 Europe 6100 310 deg.; SAf 9720 180 deg.

22-2230 Europe 6100 and 6185 both 310 deg.

All broadcasts use 250 kW transmitters. (Joe Hanlon in Philadelphia,
Oct 30, REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING)

** YUGOSERBIA. Glenn, I heard Radio Yugoslavia announce their B-99
schedule Oct 25 0025 (very poor reception, BTW). It's the same as B-
98. Eng. for NAm: 0100-0130 (M-Sa) on 7115, 0200-0230 daily on 7130.
As of Halloween, of course. 73, (Ivan Grishin, Oct 25, REVIEW OF
INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING) Both 7 MHz poor here so far (Hauser) ###